(d) whether the results obtained till now are satisfactory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Department of Ocean Development has organised seven Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica so far. The expenditure incurred during these expeditions have been as follows:—

	(Rs. in crores)
First Expedition . . .	1.90
Second Expedition . .	1.95
Third Expedition . . .	5.70
Fourth Expedition . .	6.20
Fifth Expedition . . .	5.74
Sixth Expedition . . .	5.12
Seventh Expedition . .	6.2 0

(b) The expenditure during the next five years will depend upon the availability of funds for this programme in the next plan.

(c) Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica are aimed at giving opportunities to young Indian scientists to work in the frontier areas of Antarctic Research. Through these expeditions, our scientists have obtained a first hand knowledge of the area in the fields of geology, geophysics, meteorology, biology, oceanography, geomagnetism atmospheric physics etc. These expeditions have generated a wealth of useful information or the development of infrastructure and living and working facilities in the continent. The continued interest in this programme will enable India to have a share as and when the exploitation of minerals occurs in Antarctica. The Antarctic Minerals Regime has been finalised and adopted on 2nd June, 1988.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Allocation of fund for Hi-Technology

502. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to allocate Rs. 500 crores for hi-technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any special procedure will be adopted to ensure the import of the latest technology and proper use of the allocated funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Amount spent on space programme

503. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount spent on the Space Programme during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the outlay for the next three years; and

(c) whether Government have made any assessment to find out if the results of the programme are commensurate with the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The total amount spent on Space Programme during the last five years i.e., from 1983-84 to 1987-88 is Rs. 1230.78 crores.

The year-wise break-up is given below:

	(Rs in Cr.)
1983-84	163.14
1984-85	181.59
1985-86	229.10
1986-87	309.99
1987-88	346.96
Total	1230.78

(b) The approved outlay for current financial year i.e. 1988-89 is Rs. 432.09 crores. The proposed outlay for next year i.e. 1989-90 is 396.07 crores. The outlay for the Eighth Five Year Plan for the Space Programme i.e from 1990-91 to 1994-95 is yet to be finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir. The objective of the Indian Space Programme is to develop self-reliance in the matter of putting Outer Space to peaceful national uses. The results achieved so far in the two major areas of Satellite application, namely Communication and Remote Sensing, amply justify the expenditure. Our Space Programme now provides nationwide television, substantial addition to our telecommunication facility including connecting the mainland with off-shore islands and assists in meteorological forecasting. In addition, Remote Sensing from space is now being extensively used to monitor our country's natural resources such as agriculture, mineral resources, underground water targetting, forestry, water resources, wasteland development, ocean resources and drought and flood management.

Setting up of flood forecasting

504. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in the country having Flood Forecasting stations;

(b) what is the number of forecast reports issued by each of these stations during each of the last three years;

(c) whether a decision was taken some time back to set up such a station in Punjab/Chandigarh;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not executing the decision so far; and

(e) whether the desirability of doing so has been considered afresh and if so, by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) In all, 147 flood forecasting stations have been set up on some of the inter-State rivers.

(b) These stations issued 4,783 in 1986, 5,813 in 1987 and about 6,731 in 1988 flood forecasts.

(c) to (e) The Bhakra-Beas Management Board maintains a network of wireless stations for upstream catchment areas.

Physical checking of the scheme under 20-Point Programme

505. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided sometime back to adopt two villages in every District to conduct intensive physical checking of the schemes under the 20-Point Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the results of such monitoring in the State of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINGH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.